Y /2 cont./

121 who, in the year 1875, again visited the lower part of the Olenék
[114] and the Lena to complete his observations, while at the same time I took part in the surveying of Siberia, likewise started by the Geographical Society.

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• [126] Since East Siberia, and especially the part under consideration here, is apt to be a complete terra incognita to the foreign reader to an even greater extent than to the Russian, I shall /3/ also add here for better orientation a brief survey of the history, rather uneventful in itself, of this northernmost region of Russia, with reference to the general map of the territory between the Jenisseí and Jana /Yana/ appended to this volume, which, drawn up according to our data, was reproduced by the Imperial Russian General Staff.

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175 The stretches of land of interest to us were discovered by Rus-
648 sian Cossacks in the first half ot the seventeenth century. The
167 city of Mangaséja /Mangazeya/ was founded on the river Tas /Taz/ in Samojeden /Samoyed/ country about the year 1600
[361] under the rule of Czar Boris Fedorovich Godunov. From here the Cossacks soon penetrated to the Jenisseí, founded there in the year 1607 near the mouth of the Turuchán /Turukhan/ River a settlement named after it, to which the entire trade of Mangaséja was later directed, and soon afterwards also discovered the mouths of the Jenisseí and the Pjássida River lying to the east. Spurred on by ambition and also not forgetting their pockets, Cossacks in the following years gradually pushed up the (Lower) Tungúska, emptying into the Jenisseí near Turuchánsk, before them, as Fischer (1) relates, the hunters ("are rovers who band together in

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1. Johann Eberhard Fischer, Sibirische Geschichte /Siberian History/, St. Petersburg, 1768. 2 vols. The following very characteristic quotations are taken from this work.

order to catch game"). The Lena was reached probably as early as 1620 (even earlier by the hunters) by crossing the watershed, barely 30 versts wide here, from the present village of Podwolótschnaja /Podvoloshnaya/ on the Tunguska and therefore emerging about 50 versts below the present Kirensk.

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648 This was not accomplished without battle with the resident
721 tribes. Fischer tells about a band /4/ of 189 hunters: "Never-
175 theless they were occasionally sharply rapped on the knuckles

/246 cont./

114 122 been in southern Siberia earlier, and in particular on the island of Sakhalin, and from there, since he was not only a medical man, but a very competent naturalist, had taken back to Europe excellent collections, chiefly botanical. I later had the pleasure of renewing his acquaintance in St. Petersburg, from where he now makes almost annual trips to Sakhalin as a doctor on a ship of the Imperial Navy that takes convicts there. The museums of the capital have obtained through Mr. von Awgustinówitsch 114 most valuable contributions from there remote regions. Further- 126 more at the hospitable table of the governor we met almost daily an officer (now lieutenant-colonel) stationed here, Nikolai Iwánowitsch Ssábo, who owned photographic equipment, with which he had taken many views of the town of Jakutsk /Yakutsk/, as well as portraits of Jakut /Yakut/ men and women in their 126 national costumes. Czekanowsky and I unfortunately could not possibly get permanent impressions of the scenery and folk types of the regions traversed by us. With all the pursuits that we were obliged to do -- astronomical, magnetic, meteorological, hypsometric observations, guiding the route of march with the /247/ compass and clock, geological surveys, making the richest possible botanical, zoological, and geological collections, managing affairs, etc. -- we could not think of taking photographs or making sketches, quite apart from the fact that photography, besides good equipment, also requires considerable practice, and we could certainly not have acquired either of these in Irkutsk in the short time left to us to prepare for the 114 expedition. The art of photography, moreover, seems to have spread only recently to the land of the Jakuten and, as I have already said, even to Werchojansk. The former governor of Jakutsk for many years and the predecessor of General Dewitte, Privy-Councillor von Stubendorff, whose memory is still held in high esteem among the inhabitants -- he was an army doctor and obtained this high post in recognition of his accurate knowledge of the country -- had no photographs to exhibit among his very large collections.